BENGALURU, FRIDAY, JANUARY 21, 2022 www.Bangaloremirror.com 12 Pages PRICE ₹3

Bangalore Mirror

TEMP Max 30 | Min 15 | Humidity 78% Fog/mist in the morning and mainly clear sky later Sensex 59,464 | Nifty 17,757 | Gold 49,700 | Silver 68,800 | Dollar 74.50 | Euro 84.54 | GBP 101.41

CITY PAGE 2

BU NUMBER HICCUPS, AGAIN!

CITY PAGE 3

Airport Metro line: A slow train

Number of containment zones in Bengaluru is dropping. However, covid-19 cases in city are still on the rise, experts caution

DROP ZONE

East zone has posted 3,737 coronavirus cases

Iffath Fathima @timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

A couple of days ago, the number of active containment zones hit a high in Bengaluru, crossing 600, according to BBMP war room data of January 18.

However, the figure dropped to 430 active zones the following day.

While the number of containment zones has indeed come down, the zonal officers pointed out the number of positive cases is still on the rise in various zones of the corporation, and one needs to stay cautious.

On January 18, the total number of active containment zones in the city stood at 689; the number dropped to 430 on Thursday.

The highest number of containment zones was reported in Mahadevapura with 300 active zones on January 18; the number decreased to 130 the following day.

Officials from the Mahadevapura pointed out the number of cases has been coming down in the zone.

"The number of daily cases in the zone has come down as compared to the previous week. Strict containment measures have helped in keeping the cases under control. We have been carrying out 10,000 plus tests on a daily basis in the zone to trace positive cases early; by

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4 »

KAUSHIK JN

"With increased testing, we are tracking down cases early. Though the number of positive cases are increasing, the situation is under control

– Dr KV Trilok Chandra, BBMP zonal commissioner, Mahadevapura

Vaxxed & confused

60% of 15-18 age group in Bengaluru received first shot of coronavirus vaccine

Garima Prasher
mybangaloremirror
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

Over 2 lakh teenagers aged 15-18 years in Bengaluru have received the first dose of covid-19 vaccine in two weeks of the inoculation drive launched for children.

The aforementioned figure is around 60% of the target 15-18 age group in the city, according to the data provided by the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) on Thursday.

"We started the vaccination drive for the 15-18 years age group on January 3. Till date, we have completed almost 60-65% of the targeted population. We began with the target of around 3.9 lakh children, and we have covered 2,27,345 children till date. We have also reached out to over 70% of the schools in the city," said Dr AS Balasundar, chief health officer of the BBMP.

The officials expressed optimism that by next week, 'most eligible children, if not all' will be covered under the vaccination drive.

"The eligible population started receiving jabs everyday starting

CONTINUED ON PAGE 6 »

3 THINGS TO DO

01 A heartwarming story

Silver Talkies has always championed inspiring and heart-touching journeys of Indian older adults. Here's one more that is sure to bring you great life lessons with a smile on your lips and a song in your heart. Join in for a virtual live screening of 'Aunty Sudha Aunty Radha,' an award-winning documentary by Tanuja Chandra followed by a discussion with the filmmakers. The documentary is open to all age groups, and will warm up your weekend and experience the little things that make life most meaningful which we often tend to overlook in the quest of chasing big things. **Where: Online; When: Jan 22, 4pm Register: connect@silvertalkies.com/ silvertalkies.com**

02 Down history lane

If history fascinates you, catch a special discussion on Palaces as Museums: Collecting and Connoisseurship in the states of Baroda and Mysore. Prof Janaki Nair and Dr Priya Maholay-Jaradi reflect on collecting and connoisseurship in the states of Baroda and Mysore, followed by a discussion with Prof Tapati Guha-Thakurta. This is part of a series of lectures and discussions on collections, museums, and the shaping of Indian art history curated by Guha-Thakurta. **Where: Zoom; When: Jan 21, 6pm Register: https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_3dffLqLgSf2LKz4S-hTFIg Contact: 9845059660**

03 Calling all art lovers

For the first time in the history of Bengaluru, an international printing press has been organised by the Central Conservatory Academy. The exhibition, which is an important medium of fine art, showcases works from 14 countries including India, Germany, Russia, the Netherlands, Mexico, Bangladesh, the US, France, Argentina, Croatia, Israel, Peru, and Nepal. It features 28 international collections, 33 invited artists, and 121 nationally recognized works. The exhibition of this very rare artwork is a must-see for artists and art lovers. **Where: Karnataka Chitrakala Parishath, Kumara Krupa Road; When: Till Jan 23; Contact: 9845059660**

BU codes give C+ patients a hell of a time, literally

Code takes hours to be generated; patients left waiting for hours outside hospitals

Pragna L Krupa
pragna.krupa@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

KAUSHIK JN

A senior citizen gets inoculated with a booster shot by a healthcare worker

The Bengaluru Urban Code which needs to be generated immediately after testing positive for covid is taking hours to generate. In a recent case, a covid-positive woman with chronic kidney disease who was in urgent need of hospitalisation was made to wait outside Victoria Hospital for five to six hours for the BU number. She was later allocated a bed and shifted to Bowring hospital for further treatment.

Asima (name changed), a resident of Pulakeshi Nagar has been suffering from chronic kidney disease for two years. Her son told Bangalore Mirror that on Wednesday, she was feeling very tired, and her saturation started to drop. "We immediately shifted her to Institute of Nephro Urology (INU) for her treatment at 2 pm and they did not take her in as she tested positive for covid. We were asked to check the given link and wait for the BU code to generate for the hospital to start treatment. She needed dialysis as well and we kept requesting the doctors and staff at Victoria to at least look at her as her saturation had dropped to 85.

"We had given her oxygen inside the ambulance and kept calling all the helplines to get the BU code. The INU staff refused to take her in as they don't treat covid patients. We waited for five hours outside Victoria hospital when the BU code was finally generated, and the BBMP allocated a bed in Bowring Hospital. We shifted her to Bowring Hospital around 8 pm and we were made to wait another half an hour as they were yet to confirm the bed and the oxygen inside the ambulance too had got over. The staff kept her in the general ward for an hour and then shifted her to the ICU where she is currently being treated." In another case, a 62-year-old man who needed to be admitted to a covid care centre, waited for two days for the BU Code to be generated and later reached out to a few volunteers. A volunteer from Lifeline Foundation said that the old man lives with his wife and children in small house and only he was positive for covid.

> **"We waited for five hours outside Victoria Hospital when the BU code was finally generated, and the BBMP allocated a bed in Bowring Hospital** – Asima's son

"He has symptoms, and their house has only one bathroom and no space to quarantine himself. They tried to find a CCC but with no BU code they couldn't move him. He tested positive on Tuesday night and had been waiting for BU code till Thursday morning when they approached us. We called on the helpline but there was no response, and we could not get the BU code.

We decided to take another test on Thursday when the BU code was again delayed. We had to wait for five hours and received the BU code in the evening around 5:30 pm. We later shifted him to a CCC in the evening. He was in a closed space with his family for two days and the family members who had tested negative could have been easily exposed to the virus by now."

Dr Trilok Chandra, BBMP Special Commissioner (Health), said that the BU code is automatically generated. "Daily, we get about 30,000 covid cases and BU code would be generated to all of them automatically. This could be an isolated case and I will look into it," he said.

Dr Chandra added that the 62-year-old patient was given a BU code on Tuesday itself but, it did not reflect on the portal or the zonal control room and helpline staff who also failed to check his BU code.

A senior officer said that they were facing issues with ICMR data flow, and the servers are unable to process the high data load. "We do not have any delays on our end. However, BU number is not mandatory for seeking admission for emergency cases. Bed can be blocked by the zone itself by adding the patient details on CHBMS, considering there is a positive report," he said.

However, when patients contacted the zonal control room, the staff were not aware of the process and asked them to wait until the BU code was generated or visit a nearby triage centre.

Govt to take a call on weekend curfew today

Bangalore Mirror Bureau
mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMIRROR

On Friday, a meeting of Covid experts and senior ministers chaired by the CM will take a call on whether to continue weekend curfew or not. Revenue Minister R Ashoka said that during the meeting, both lives and livelihood of the people will be considered. While many BJP ministers and leaders say that weekend curfew has hit the economy, others want to wait and watch.

Ashoka said that opinions expressed by leaders of various political parties and groups will be discussed.

City crosses 30,000-mark

It was a day of records for the city, once more. On Thursday, Bengaluru breached its second wave peak (26,756 cases reported on April 30, 2021) by recording 30,540 Covid cases (along with eight deaths). The state's daily tally was 47,754 cases.

The total number of active cases across the state is now 2,93,231 with Bengaluru's share being 2,01,714.

Of the 29 deaths, eight are from Bengaluru Urban, Kalaburagi and Mysuru (5), Bidar and Tumakuru (2), followed by others.

Metro airport line 49 properties away

274 properties are required for execution of this project, of which 224 sites have been acquired

Sridhar.Vivan@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @sridharvMirror

The acquisition of properties are key to fast track the airport Metro line which connects Outer Ring Road to Kempegowda International Airport. A total of 274 properties are required for execution of this project. Out of this, 214 are private and the rest are government. While the BMRCL has been able to acquire 224 properties (175 private and 49 government), it is yet to acquire 49 (38 private and 11 government) properties. Sources said that once these properties are acquired, then the entire project will be fast tracked.

The airport lines have been categorised as phase 2B (38-kilometres of Airport Line) connecting K R Puram to Kempegowda International Airport). Out of 2,22,404.17 sqm required for viaduct and stations for this line 2,10,730.80 sqm is acquired and 2,09,784.65 sqm is handed over to the engineering section. The payment of compensation for the remaining area is under progress. In another key project, out of 23 acres of land required for depot at Shettigere, 18 acres of land have been transferred by the State Government and are handed over to the BMRCL.

The remaining five acres of land is under litigation and is pending with the Special Deputy Commissioner, Bengaluru Urban District for passing of orders. However, the BMRCL has requested the State Government for transfer of 4-34 acre of land adjacent to 18 acres already granted for the depot. The proposal is now pending with the Deputy Commissioner.

Overall, in other stretches, 49 properties are yet to be acquired. As per the latest BMRCL newsletter, in Reach-6–(22- kilometre new line–Kalena Agrahara to IIMB To Nagawara) lands required for elevated and underground stretch from Kalena Agrahara to Nagawara are acquired and handed over to the engineering section. An extent of 32.6 acres of land required for Kothanur Depot is acquired and handed over to the engineering section. Notification for an additional area of 582.25 sqm for viaduct and 157.10 sqm in underground for Nagawara Metro Station and 883.00 sqm required for RMS Station has been published in the gazette.

Though the Reach-3C–Extension is just 3 km long (Nagasandra to Bengaluru International Exhibition Centre), the project is dragging beyond deadline. Now, BMRCL officials say that all the lands required for this reach are acquired and handed over to the engineering section. Acquisition of additional area of 1885.11 sqm for providing road links to Chikkabidarakallu Metro Station from Anchepalya and other villages via Jindal-Prestige Layout has been set aside by the High Court. An appeal against this order has already been filed in High court. In 18.5 kilometre reach-5–(New Line-RV Road To Bommasandra, out of 3,09,379.97 sqm required, 3,08,232.00 sqm has been acquired and handed over to the engineering section. A final notification for acquisition of an additional area of 1147.97 sqm has been approved by the Government and the Land Committee report is awaited.

Of 2.22 lakh sqm required for the airport line 2.10 lakh sqm has been acquired and 2.09 lakh sqm is handed over to the engineering section

How much work is done

Hosa Road to Bommanahalli - 100
Baiyappanahalli to Visvesvaraya Industrial Area — 96
Visvesvaraya Industrial Area to Whitefield — 99
Nayandahalli to Pattanagere — 100
Pattanagere to Challaghatta depot — 99
Nagasandra to BIEC — 75
Yelachenahalli Cross to Silk Institute — 99
Bommasandra to Hosa Road — 92
Bommanahalli to RV Road — 76
Kalena Agahara to Swagath Cross Road — 30
(IN PER CENT)

While Whitefield and Electronics City road works are seeing a brisk pace, the Swagath cross work is progressing slowly

Work in progress

While Whitefield and Electronics City road works are seeing a brisk pace, the Swagath cross work is limping. According to the latest report, Hosa Road to Bommanahalli stretch has been completed while Swagath road cross has seen just 30 per cent completion.

Sexagenarian held for groping techie in lift

Pragna L Krupa
pragna.krupa@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

A 68-year-old man residing in an apartment allegedly groped and sexually harassed a 36-year-old woman, who is his neighbour. The incident happened inside their apartment lift. The accused, Subodh Kumar Sinha, has been booked under IPC section 354A (sexual harassment) and was arrested by the Varthur police on Wednesday.

The complainant, a techie, approached the Varthur police along with her husband and filed a complaint on Tuesday. She told the police that the incident took place on Sunday around 1:30 pm when she was going down in the lift from 22nd floor to the 13th floor. "I was inside the lift along with Sinha and he spoke to me casually as I knew him. As I was about to get down on the 13th floor, he suddenly hugged me and groped me.

No one was inside the lift except us and he started to sexually harass me. He even asked me if I had any problem with him continuing the act later," she stated.

She immediately raised an alarm and alerted the neighbours and called her husband. Police said that taking his age to concern, the family first approached the accused and his family for his behaviour. When they refused to apologise and denied the act, they approached the police after two days.

A senior police officer said that as soon as the complaint was filed, they arrested the accused. "Sinha was working in a private company in Bihar and recently moved in with his children in the apartment in Varthur. He did not feel apologetic about his behaviour and maintained that he had not done anything wrong or sexullay harassed her," he said.

Varthur police have registered a case of sexual harassment and are investigating.

Burglars steal statues from rehab facility

Bellie.Thomas
@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @Bellie_Mirror

In what looks like an act of burglary, unknown miscreants allegedly broke into a psychological rehabilitation centre in JP Nagar and got away with the statues of deities kept at the facility in JP Nagar 6th phase.

The incidents happened on two occasions -- once during the intervening night of January 10 and 11, which the facility owner chose not to bring up the issue.

When he found that the backdoor of the facility was broken on January 14, he approached the jurisdictional Puttenahalli police and filed a complaint.

Based on a complaint filed by the facility owner Vivek Agarwal, the police are analysing CCTV footage and are tracing the culprits.

The culprits had made away with three statues of Buddha, one statue of Lord Krishna, another statue of Nataraja, and four Shree Yantras which is worth according to Agarwal Rs 1.18 lakh.

There were a few other smaller items meant of aesthetic sense that were taken from the facility, Agarwal stated in his complaint with the police.

Dabur
ROGHAN BADAM SHIREEN
Get Dabur Honey Free With
Dabur Roghan Badam Shireen
BENEFITS OF 100% PURE BADAM OIL
Healthy Mind
Helps keep body warm in winters
Strong Hair
Soft Skin
ROGHAN BADAM SHIREEN
FREE Dabur Honey 100g worth ₹62/-
FREE#
100g Dabur Honey of ₹62*
*With 100ml pack. T&C apply: * Offer valid till stock last, stock available without offer as well. Dosage & Directions as per the Label.
Dabur Arogya: For Free Consultation with Doctor, Call - 1800-103-1644(Toll Free).

KR Puram lakes to get a new life

Vengaiah and Gangashetty lakes turn into cesspools with sewage flowing in from the hood

Iffath Fathima
iffath.fathima
@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

KAUSHIK JN

Vengaiah lake loses old charm, but residents (inset) try to keep it alive

The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) had given multiple assurances over the rejuvenation of the Vengaiah lake in KR Puram, however nothing much happened on the ground till now. Meanwhile on Thursday, bhoomi pooja was done on the lake premises to carry out the rejuvenation work at cost of Rs 4 crore. The residents are not hopeful of seeing a freshwater lake again.

The lakes had turned into cesspools with continuous sewage flowing in from KR Puram and other areas. There had also been instances where people would dump garbage on the lakebed. Several times, even construction debris is dumped on the lakebed. The residents had made several complaints to the authorities, but nothing much was done to revive the lake.

In the year 2020, the BBMP lakes team had visited the lake for an inspection and to discuss the detailed project report of the lake. However, more than a year passed and nothing was done on the ground. However an official from BBMP told BM that the lakes team assured that the work will be started on Friday.

Officials from the BBMP lakes team said, "We had called for tenders in November 2021, by the time the bidders came in, it took a while. By December end it was finalised and last week, the contractor was given a work order. The rejuvenation will be done at a cost of Rs 4 crore. We will carry out desilting and create diversion channels to prevent sewage from entering the waterbodies."

The Vengaiah lake is spread across 64 acres and with its pathetic state, it has been a breeding ground for mosquitoes and the hyacinths have overgrown and filled the entire lake.

Many locals have volunteered to plant saplings on the lake premises and even cleared out garbage from the area. While with the rejuvenation news, the residents of KR Puram are satisfied and are waiting to see the works to kickstart for rejuvenation.

Balaji Raghothaman, lake activist said, "We have been waiting for the lake rejuvenation for more than 5 years. However, Rs 4 crore is not sufficient for the rejuvenation as this is a huge lake. We have been assured that another Rs 4 crore will be sanctioned to carry out other rejuvenation works. Many residents who have been living in KR puram for more than 10 years, have memories of swimming in the Vengaiah lake. The water was very clean back then, but with the surrounding developments over the years, the lake was neglected and got into a worse condition."

"The rejuvenation will be done at a cost of Rs 4 crore. We will carry out desilting and create diversion channels to prevent sewage from entering the waterbodies – BBMP official

Meanwhile, the BBMP official also pointed out that an amount is even released for the rejuvenation of 21.5 acre Gangashetty lake in KR Puram and works on both these lakes will start off together. "We will carry out desilting and construction at the lake." He said.

Gangashetty is also one of the oldest lakes, which has become pathetic with heaps of garbage dumping and even people creating a menace, by some violators coming and drinking and throwing alcohol bottles on the lake bed. Many would even urinate near the lake, which create a bad stench and many residents refrained from coming to the lake. "The lake has been shrinking with several forms of encroachment. If rejuvenation is carried out, we could see the two lakes come alive, said Raghothaman.

Number of containment zones dropping

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

following the containment measures the cases have not been spreading," said Dr KV Trilok Chandra, BBMP's Mahadevapura zonal commissioner.

Joint commissioner M Venkatakachalapathy of Mahadevapura zone said the numbers in apartment complexes in the zone have been high: "The cases have been high in apartment blocks. Most of the cases testing positive are of those with a history of domestic travel. One needs to continue following the measures to keep the cases under control."

Comparing the containment zones from January 18 data, the active numbers in the other zones as well reported low numbers.

The second highest number of containment spots was reported in Bommanahalli with 87 active zones followed by Yelahanka with 66 zones while South reported 65 spots, West 51, East 22, RR Nagar 7 and Dasarahalli 2.

KAUSHIK JN

Swab being collected for covid test

"There are many construction labourers and other workers in factories who have tested positive. The high number of tests has kept the numbers in control," said a Bommanahalli zonal officer.

Dr Chandra, who's also BBMP's health commissioner, said the civic body has been carrying out the highest number of tests in the country going up to 1 lakh per day. "With the increase in tests, we are tracking down cases early. Though the number of positive cases are increasing, the situation is still under control. One need not panic. The ones testing positive need to isolate at home and follow isolation protocols. The BBMP has also been carrying out active triaging at hospitals and those needing hospitalisations are sent to hospitals while those who can be treated at home are advised home isolation," he added.

Going by positive cases, zone-wise, East zone reported the highest number of 3,737 cases in the past seven days, followed by South with 3,449 cases.

Mahadevapura reported 3,221cases, Bommanahalli 2,654 and West 2,410 cases. RR Nagar registered 1,735 cases, Yelahanka recorded 1,712 cases and Dasarahalli posted 715 cases.

Talking about the high number of cases in the East, Dr Chandra said: "There has been high people movement in the East zone which has led to the increase in numbers."

whatsapp MIRROR
9591233247
Problems in your area?
Send us a picture along with specific details. And please, no phone calls or spamming

The hole issue
Avenue Road

A big pit on the Avenue Road adds to the already existing problem of congestion of shoppers and other hawkers on the road. This hole has to be repaired quickly and barricaded properly until then.

Garbage station
Banashankari

A junction in Banashankari 3rd stage is used to dump garbage. There are no dustbins here and it causes a lot of stench. The BBMP has to provide an alternative place for the residents to dump their garbage.

Stinky underpass
Vijayanagar

A corner underneath Vijayanagar Metro Station is used to dump waste and debris. It has to be cleaned up as soon as possible.

The spotlight's on pet shops and aquariums

State Animal Welfare Board establishes committee to monitor pet shops

PICTURE FOR REPRESENTATION ONLY

Notices will be served to all shops flouting norms & regulations

Bellie Thomas
bellie.thomas
@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @Bellie_Mirror

The Karnataka Animal Welfare Board (KAWB) has constituted a committee that will monitor all pet shops operating in and around the city to ensure no animals suffer cruelty.

This four-member committee will regulate the existing practices of animal handling and trade at pet shops in and around the city who have already obtained pet shop licenses. Often, once these pet shops get their licenses, they do not follow the prescribed norms, the KAWB members pointed out.

This committee is headed by the Deputy Director of Animal Husbandry, Bangalore Urban, Dr Umapathy who is also the member secretary of Bangalore SPCA, Joint Director, BBMP Animal Husbandry, Dr Chandraiah, Karnataka Animal Welfare Board (KAWB) member Dr Shivanand Damble, and a senior animal activist Arun Prasad.

"If needed, sub-committees will be formed under us zonally and Joint Director Dr Chandriah has instructed the assistant directors of each zone to make a list of the pet shops. If any of the officials find any discrepancies at any pet shops from the time of obtaining licensing until present, notices will be served to them to take corrective measures," Prasad told Bangalore Mirror.

The norms include: hygiene that needs to be maintained at pet shops, no overcrowding of pets inside cages, proper ventilation, food, water and adherence of all other guidelines put forth by the Animal Husbandry Department.

" If there is no continuous evaluation, pet shops after taking the licenses will go back to their old ways of functioning where they do not care for animals' well-being," Prasad reiterated.

"Not many aquariums have come forward to register themselves or obtain licenses from the Department of Fisheries and once we begin our drives, we will urge the pet shop owners to obtain registration/license for their aquariums as well. The main objective is to ensure zero cruelty to animals along with adherence to the norms and rules laid out by the Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI)," said Prasad.

Sources from the Animal Husbandry Department told this newspaper that there are almost 800 pet shops cum aquariums in the city and there are 2,600 odd pet shops across the state and around 99 per cent of them operate pet shops alongside aquariums.

"If we find a pet shop with a commercial aquarium attached to it, we will also bring this to the notice of the Department of Fisheries and we will ask them to get a registration done from the Fisheries Department," Prasad added.

Bangalore Mirror

Unregulated pet trade by a generic trade licence overlooking certification from fisheries, animal husbandry departments raises concern

PET SHOP PLOYS

800-odd aquariums/pet shops in the city

Our story on Jan 5 said that 95% of pet shops and aquariums in the city were not registered with animal husbandry and fisheries departments — mandatory for a trade licence from the BBMP.

Senior officers allegedly aided cops peddling drugs

Several senior police officers allegedly helped the two cops accused of peddling drugs get bail from court, latest findings reveal. The two policemen were deputed to the CM's residence as security.

The case is now being handed over to the Central Crime Branch (CCB) for a more detailed probe, police said on Thursday. The accused cops Shivakumar and Santhosh were caught selling drugs near the residence of Chief Minister Bommai on January 13. The police department has suspended police inspector Ashwath Gowda and sub-inspector Veerabhadraswamy. Notices were also issued to DCP Southeast Division Srinath Mahadev Joshi and DCP VVIP Security Wing Manjunath Babu.

Pay bribe or have sex: PI to woman

A 39-year-old woman has filed a complaint against a Police Inspector in the city accusing him of sexual harassment.

In a complaint with Bengaluru Police Commissioner Kamal Pant, the woman claimed that the accused allegedly asked her to bribe him or gratify him physically, police said on Thursday. According to her, the inspector allegedly took advantage of her when she went to lodge a complaint against her tenant on January 13.

"The inspector asked me to pay Rs 5 lakh or oblige his requests of sexual favour whenever he wants," she said. –IANS

Print invoices, high-quality documents, inventory lists and more!

YOUR PERFECT BUSINESS PARTNER

With Epson's Heat-Free Printing Technology save money and improve business productivity.

Prints at just 12 Paise[1] — Savings every time

Up to 35X less[1] power usage — Prints on UPS

Up to 6,000 prints[2] per refill — Non-stop printing

ecotank

PRECISIONCORE HEAT-FREE

The numbers tell the difference

Printer Model (Single Function)	Bundled Page Yield	Page Yield of a Refill Bottle/Toner	Toners / Ink Bottles for 50,000 pages	Cost of the Ink Bottle / Toner	Cost Per Print (Black)	Total Cost of Ownership (TCO)[3]
Popular Mono Laser (Original toner usage)	2,000 Pages	2,000 Pages	24	₹6,399	₹3.20	₹166,465
Popular Mono Laser (Refill toner usage)	2,000 Pages	1,500 Pages	32	₹400	₹0.27	₹25,689
Monochrome EcoTank M1100 (with Genuine Ink Refill Bottle)	5,000 Pages	6,000 Pages	8	₹699	₹0.12	₹17,842

16 Monochrome EcoTank models for small businesses to choose from

Monochrome EcoTank Printers

THE ONLY WAY TO PRINT

India's No.1[4] INKJET PRINTER

Call 95357 99057 or visit jointherevolution.co.in/M-series for more information

eClean e-Waste to e-Clean call . clear . clean

EPSON SERVICE

Epson Helpline: For product info or service - 1800 425 0011
For service - 1800 123 001 600 or 1860 300 016 00 (9 AM - 6 PM) (Mon - Sat)
Email: think@eid.epson.co.in www.epson.co.in

[4]IDC Asia-Pacific Hardcopy Peripherals Tracker FY2021 H1. Volume Market Share of A4 Inkjet Printers and MFPs. [1]For cost-per-print and power consumption calculations, visit epson.co.in/parameters. [3]Yield of 2,000 pages with the 40 mL ink bottle and yield of 6,000 pages with the 120/140 mL ink bottles. [2]Total cost of ownership comparison is based on printing 50,000 pages, considering refill toner yield of 1,500 pages, cost of refill ₹400 & MRP of the Laser Printer vs M1100 ink bottle yield of 6,000 pages, MRP of the genuine ink bottle of ₹699 and the MRP of M1100 Printer.

Epson is the registered trademark of Seiko Epson Corporation, Japan.

70% city schools in vax drive

January 3. We will soon be completing vaccination of all school-going children between the age group of 15-18 in Bengaluru. However, the rate has slowed down a bit due to many schools shifting to the online mode," explained Balasundar.

"We prepared a list of all the students in the age group of 15-18 in the schools in Bengaluru with the help of the education department. We chalked out an action plan accordingly and started the drive. Most of the government and private schools in the city are already covered and now we are targeting out-of-the-school children. We are doing this with the help of various other departments and trying to locate this age group that is not a part of any educational institutions," Balasundar further explained.

According to BBMP officials, there is sufficient stock of vaccines to meet the target.

The hurdles

As the vaccination drive for the age-group of 15-18 gets underway at school campuses, officials are of the view that online classes have indeed slowed down the progress.

"We faced a minor setback around five days ago when most of the schools went back to online mode due to poor attendance. However, we are trying our level best to reach out to the kids through other sources such as NGOs," said a BBMP official.

According to school authorities, while the majority of the students came to the campus to get their first dose, there are some that are still reluctant.

"The BBMP's vaccination drive at our campus began in the first week of January; they wrapped up by the end of the second week. We had informed the parents about the drive. Majority of the parents turned up with their children; some did not. These are those parents that are still apprehensive about the effects of the vaccine and are playing 'wait and watch'. We are hoping they will contact us soon and once they do, we plan to conduct the second phase of the drive," said Ramitha Ramachandran, principal, School of India.

Your Connect

AADITYA GARDEN
Only Few Sites are Available
BBMP 'A' Khata Sites
Anjanapura
Few Mins. Drive from B.G Road & Kanakapura Road
Best Offer Price ₹4250/- Per Sqft Negotiable
Within BBMP Limits with DC Conversion
All Class Amenities, Ready to Construct
Plot Sizes : 30x45, 30x50 & 60x40
98455 55547 / 99866 55668

jobs

CAREER CONSULTANTS

STUDY, Work & Migrate to Canada, AUS, US, UK & high-paid Jobs. (FREE IELTS Exam). CV to 9003586555. www.visagrants.com

SITUATION VACANT

ACADEMIC

TEACHER

NEW HOLY SAINT HIGH SCHOOL RPC Lyt, English /Socials 16000+ P.M Maths /Science 18000/- Salary Expe Teacher: 7892461960/ 9980802988

ADMINISTRATION

HRD & ADMINISTRATIVE

HR/ ADMIN EXECUTIVE Required For a Company in Indiranagar, Female Candidates, Call HR : 8971025555

MANAGERS

RESTART Your Career With Leading Bank (VRS/ Retired/Bankers/HW/ Defence) Age 35 to 65 Location Malleshwaram: 8660414532

LIFE Insurance Co. invites candidates for recruitment & Businesses Development. 30 yrs+. Fixed pay + other benefits. Contact 9845088345

MARKETING, ADVERTISING & SALES

GENERAL

WANTED Spare Parts Assistant for Two Wheeler Showroom in Koramangala. Salary : 15K - 20K. Contact : 9945083900.

OTHER VACANCIES

MULTIPLE VACANCIES

OPPORTUNITY for Retd Officials,Bankers,NRI,Teachers, Professionals, Homemakers, CAs. Earn salary + Incentives. CALL: 8 0 9 5 3 0 1 5 5 5

PART TIME JOBS

GLOBAL International Friendship Club Reqd M & F Daily Earn 10,000 To 15,000 PF & ESI Benefits with Food & RM Whtsapp 9513045046/ 7022770604

REQD street smart Male 25-45 yrs, for part time field job. Working hrs late evening 8 PM - 11:30 PM. "Contact 6361907170"

WORK FROM HOME

GOVERNMENT Affiliate Data Entry Typing Work From Home, Daily Payment, No Target, No accuracy, With Govt Bond. For details M:9742344447

SITUATIONS WANTED

JOB Opportunity, MNC is Looking for Female Graduates Age 30-52 Years. Salary 2 Lakhs/ Annum+PF+ESI. Contact: 9845256229/ 9483918226

business

INVESTMENT

POTENTIAL Unicorn in Edtech, seeking Investment from accredited Investors. Mail: prabu.govind@teeneinstein.com

real estate

BANGALORE PROPERTIES

DOLLARS COLONY

3BHK Luxury High End Flats in Dollars Colony, 2nd cross, near Pebble Bay. For details Contact: 8088330330. www.govianu.com.

INDIRA NAGAR

SAIVEN Sunset Boulevard. SALE: 1/2/3 BHK Near Hilton Hotel, DOMLUR, Starting 70 Lacs, RERA Apprvd. BBMP 'A' Katha. "Prerna"- 96634-67711

MULTIPLE LOCATIONS

BUY / LONG LEASE RENTAL Minimum of 2 acres Purpose for Education Institution with Good road approach- Land / Building / Existing School College Institution /Commercial Property /Club /Industry /Green Belt / Factory /Converted - location Near Bangalore North Kempegowda International Airport, Bagalur, Kannur, Billamaranahalli, Hunasamaranahalli, Kannur, Sathnur, Huttanahalli, Hosahalli, Chagalahatti, Gummanahalli, Vidyanagar, Jakkur, Kogilu, Kothanur, Thanisndra, Chikkajala, Byatarayanapura, Amrutha Halli, Thanisandra, Yelahanka, No Brokers. Contact: EDUWEFT SERVICES PVT LTD, Sumanth Narayan: 9845003036 Email: info@eduweft.com

SAHAKARA NAGAR

LUXURY Highrise Flats in Sahakara Nagara , 60 Feet Road, F Block. For booking & details Contact: 8088330330, www.govianu.com

SANJAY NAGAR

3BHK Luxury High End Flats in Sanjaynagar, 200 meters from RMV Hospital Park. Contact: 8088330330 www.govianu.com

FOR SALE

BANGALORE

4BHK duplex house and 3BHK outhouse in 50x75ft site. Prime location in Jayanagar for sale. Genuine buyers only. Contact: 9035173159

OUTSIDE BANGALORE

CHIKMAGALUR

FARM House with Resort at Chikamagalur for sale at just 29Lakh per acre. For more details Contact: 8103990990. www.govianu.com.

PROPERTY ANCILLARIES

LEASE & RENT

HOUSE for Rent, 8th A Main, Basaveshwar Nagar, Ground Floor, Bengaluru, Call : 9845096147

personal

CHANGE OF NAME

I, G. RASHMI W/o. G. Uma Shankar Rao R/a #1138, 9th Block, 12th main road, near Bande Maramma Bus stand, Nagarabhavi 2nd stage, VTC: Nagarabhavi, Po: Nagarabhavi Sub District, Bangalore- 560072 Declare that J. H. RASHMI (Mentioned in Passport No. K2132417) and GOVARDANAM RASHMI and G. RASHMI all names one and the same person i.e. myself only, Henceforth, Known as G. RASHMI only, vide affidavit dated: 18.01.2022 sworn before Notary Devaraja, E. Bengaluru.

IT is for general information that I, Rinku Moni Sadhanidar aged about major D/o Hemanata Kumar Sadhanidar R/o No 367, 3 floor 1" Main Road, Sarabandepalya Banashankari II Stage B'lore-560070 have changed my name to Riza Shariff and I have renounced Hindu religion and embraced Muslim religion vide affidavit dtd 31/12/2021.

I, Sharanya J D/o K G Jagannatha Rao R/o #43 , 2nd Main Road , Guru raja Layout , BSK 3rd Stage , Bangalore South , Tyagrajnagar Bangalore -560028 Karnataka have changed my name to Sharanya Ashtakar for all future purposes.

I Praveena Kumara Bedarahosalli Janardhana R/O # 18 V S Residency T2 3rd Flr 1st A Crs Chikkalasandra Mn Rd B-61have changed my name as Praveen Kumar Bedarahosalli Janardhana vide affidavit dt 20/1/22 before notary S N Madhu B'lore.

I, Soumya Shanmukha R/o Jayanth Santis, Esteem North wood Ln, Blueberry Street, Ramanashree Gardens Layout, Yelahanka B'lore-560064 have changed my minor son's name from Aditya Keshav Karthi to Aditya Raj for all purposes.

I, Rajeet Kumar Singh R/o D-304, Tower-1, Gulmohar Adarsh Palm Retreat, Outer Ring Road, Bellandur, Bengaluru-560103. have changed my minor son's name from Arsh Singh to Arsh Rajeet Singh

I, Kattan Joseph Desmond Joe S/o Antony Kattan Joseph R/o #490, Nellaihudikeri post, Somwarpet Taluk, Kodagu Pin : 571253 , Karnataka , India have changed my name to Kattan Antony Desmond Joe .

I, ANTHONY ANUSHA, R/a. at #23 7th Cross Dead End, Madiwala, Maruthi Nagar, Bangalore-560029 have changed my name to ANUPRIYA vide affidavit dated 20.01.2022 before Notary B.M. Chandrashekar

I, Zareena W/o sanaulla Khan R/o #12/1 4th Cross sirsi Road m d block chamrajpet bangalore 560018 have changed my name to Zareen Sultana for all purposes

LOST & FOUND

I, Ravi Kishan T S R/o #65, 5th Cross Nagarbhavi main road, canara bank colony, Nagarbhavi B'lore 72. I have lost my BDA Site allotment letter, Sale Deed Doc no 5974/2004-05, site no. 3961, SMVL 6th Block, Possession certificate and Khata Certificate on 18-01-22 at Chandra Layout. If anybody found Please handover to the nearest Police Station or BDA office or Above Mentioned address or Contact 9845122766

I ROOPESH REDDY R R/o #129/3 12th Cross Rama Temple road Domlur Village Bangalore 560071. I Have Lost my Registered gift deed Document no 4169/21-22 of Book 1 Stored in CD no BMHD1485 on 25-12-21 at Domlur. Document registered at Bommanahalli (Kormangala). If anybody found Please handover to the Nearest Police Station or Above Mentioned Address or Contact 8884988878.

I sumanth v, 260 chikka begur begur post bangalore 560068 lost the partition deed of the property, document no BNG(U)-BMH3916/2010-2011 along with Ec, tax paid receipt, katha extract. Finder pls contact 9611148757

TO BOOK YOUR TIMES INTERACT ADS
Stay safe. Stay home.
Call/mail us for contact-less ad booking. To book your Times Interact ads
Call 080-23338111 / 9986482217
Email: ebenezer.winston@timesgroup.com
All digital payment solutions available

MATRIMONIALS

LOOKING FOR GROOM?
Delhi based Handsome boy, height 5'7"/90, working as a Corporate Lawyer with a multinational company,
Email at: abc@xyz.com
Call on: 91XXXXXXXX
SCAN, SELECT & PAY for this attractive Template
- Logon to ads.timesgroup.com
- Select Classified Display & City
- Select the Design of your choice & Pay Online

THE TIMES GROUP
Readers are recommended to make appropriate enquires and seek appropriate advice before sending money, incurring any expenses, acting on medical recommendations or entering into any commitment in relation to any advertisement published in this publication. The Times Of India Group doesn't vouch for any claims made by the Advertisers of products and services. The Printer, Publisher, Editor, and Owners of The Times Of India Group publications shall not be held liable for any consequences, in the event such claims are not honoured by the Advertisers.

TIMES inter ACT
Most people go their whole lives without having their story written. An obituary is where one can do them justice, where one can record their memory so that they live on forever. It's their life story, preserved to make sure the world remembers them.
logon to
ads.timesgroup.com
Times of India official Ad Booking Platform
1. Select City & Publication
2. Create / Upload your own Ad
Scan me
Readymade Creatives
100% Secure & Online
ads.timesgroup.com

LOOKING FOR BRIDE?
FIND YOUR PERFECT MATCH USING BEAUTIFUL AD TEMPLATES
logon to
ads.timesgroup.com
Times of India official Ad Booking Platform
Scan me
Buy 2 & Get 2 Ads Free
Book & Pay online
*T&C Apply

Post-truth policing

Bangalore Mirror delves into the work of K'taka police team that does fact checks to throw fake news out of circulation

Bellie Thomas
bellie.thomas@timesgroup.com

TWEETS @Bellie_Mirror

The Karnataka State Police's fake-news busting team is on a roll. The police department had launched this section - a landing page of fact checks in the Karnataka State Police official website in April 2020 to put an end to the fake forwards on social media.

A team of 10 to 12 members of tech savvy policemen, handpicked by the Intelligence wing of the state police department keeps a tab on posts on social media that go viral. The team picks up these posts and works on them for about 10 to 12 hours to declare them as genuine or fake. They then post the facts on their fact-check landing page on the police department's official website, and also share them on their Twitter handles tagging seniors to bring it to their notice too.

"This team of policemen's duty is to just verify if the post is fake or genuine. The team members do not go behind the person who initially posted the fake news to bring him/her to book," a senior police officer said.

The fact-checking team has been on the job during the first and second wave during pandemic when social media platforms were flooded with mis-information both regarding the Covid-19 pandemic, lockdowns, vaccines, government policies and other issues in general.

In May 2021, a video clip of a group of policemen assaulting an individual was being circulated on WhatsApp during the second wave in Karnataka. In the video, a female voice is heard blaming the police force and instigating the public to retaliate and attack the police. The fact-checking police team here, upon detailed verification, found that this video was of an incident that occurred in Mumbra, near Mumbai in Maharashtra in April 2020.

Similarly, a video clip of a news item aired on a vernacular TV channel was being circulated on social media platforms with a claim that the new Home Minister had instructed the police to discontinue collection of all spot fines for traffic violations across the state including Bengaluru. The video also mentioned that city Traffic police has withdrawn all the PDAs issued to them.

However, when the fact-check team verified the report, they found that this video and the related news were incorrect and carried due to misinterpretation of the Home minister's statement made on August 9, 2021 The home minister had mentioned that he doesn't want any zero traffic arrangements for his movement in the state. This seems to have been wrongly interpreted in certain sections of media channels and the fake news spread like wildfire. The Traffic Police has also issued a clarification.

Officers say now even people are more cautious about information on social media

> **"This team's duty is to just verify if the post is fake or genuine. The team members do not go behind the person who initially posted the fake news**
>
> –A senior police officer

In May last year, there was a Whatsapp message in circulation stating that a 1000 bedded #COVID19 care hospital has been established by Indian Armed Forces near Airport terminal T1 at Bangalore.

And that this facility was meant to help the civilian brethren and ex-service men and everything was free for Covid patients at this facility. And when the fact-checking team started working on it, they found that a similar message was in circulation in Mumbai too where the Defence PRO Mumbai had rubbished it.

In another such fake Whatsapp forward, a video clip was being circulated on social media platforms, where allegations were made on Sirsi Government Hospital in Uttara Kannada District doctors about killing of an elderly covid patient in hospital by hitting him on his head. The video seems to have been recorded during the cremation ceremony of the deceased. The fact-check police team verified this video and found that the death of the individual had actually occurred at Sirsi General Hospital. But it is not due to any assault as alleged in the video. Sirsi General Hospital has already issued clarification in this regard. It was also found that the video was made by family members of the deceased person, without knowing the actual cause for the incident.

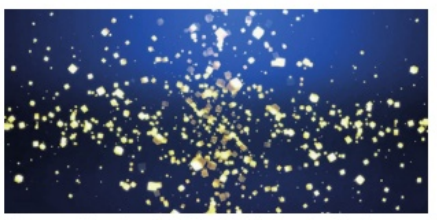
With the team working in a robust manner, there has been a considerable decrease in circulation of the fake posts, police sources said. Members of the general public have become smarter and are not believing everything on social media now, they added. So the team is busy with its task of go after the biggest crime of them all — mis-information.

Centre of excellence for animation, visual effects, gaming launched

The AVGC Centre of Excellence (animation, visual effects, gaming and comics CoE), a high-technology digital media hub funded by the Department of Electronics, Information Technology, Biotechnology and Science &; Technology under the 'Innovate Karnataka initiative, was launched on Thursday.

Emerging as the first state to introduce an AVGC policy as early as 2012, Karnataka now lays claim to be the first state in the country to set up such a large centre of excellence.

Launching the centre, Minister for Electronics, IT, BT and Higher Education, C.N. Ashwath Narayan said, "This CoE brings digital excellence to creative industries. India now commands around 10 per cent of the global AVGC market and has the potential to reach 20-25 per cent by 2027. Karnataka has been driving the AVGC sector in the country. Our government is proud of this CoE and this centre will take us to greater prominence in the sector."



The centre is a high-tech media hub

The centre also has a finishing school which offers courses based on emerging technology such as virtual reality, digital compression, photogrammetry, gamification of education, real-time virtual production, and other emerging technologies, he said.

"The state will come out with the new AVGC policy within one year and required land will be provided within a year to set up dedicated 'Digital Media Entertainment Area'. More small CoEs will be set up across the state, particularly on campuses of universities, and collaborations will be made with more number of fine arts institutions," the minister added. **–IANS**

FAKE NEWS BUSTER MIRROR

THERE'S NO GERM OF TRUTH IN SURGICAL MASK CLAIM

THE CLAIM

A video is circulating on social media that makes the claim that disposable surgical masks are infested with germs. A man in the video claims we breathe in these germs through the mask and coronavirus is spread through them.

SO, WHAT'S THE TRUTH?

The Press Information Bureau has on its Twitter handle, dismissed this claim as a falsity. The PIB says if the mask is new and designed scientifically in germ-free locations, they will not have any germs. It is essential to wear the mask properly by covering your nose and chin so that you and the people around you are protected from coronavirus. According to doctors, If the mask is dry and its layers and shape are intact, it can be put in a zip lock pouch with a desiccated gel. If the mask is intact and not torn, it can be reused for three days. If it's worn by an infected person, it should never be reused or shared.

BUST FAKE NEWS WITH MIRROR

9591233247

Let's separate the news from the noise, Bengaluru. Tell us about that incredible-sounding story/news/alert that you've received on WhatsApp or social media and Bangalore Mirror researchers and editors will see if it checks out. If it doesn't, we'll call it out

TOPCOMMENTS

Make way for the citizens

Our story Delivery personnel block Indiranagar residents' path has got a few responses. Sreedhar Krishnamurthy writes, footpaths are meant for pedestrians. Pedestrians have the right of way on footpaths. All vehicles parked, debris, garbage and permanent hawkers should be removed from footpaths in every ward by BBMP and police. Marshals should be deployed to ensure this is strictly followed. Costly TenderSURE footpaths undertaken under Smart Cities funding are not beneficial to pedestrians. Ram Ramesh writes, delivery boys have become a havoc to other riders, though their service is appreciated. Kiran writes, I think this will become new normal for every residential area in the city. In the last three months we have three new stores in Kaggadasapura main road. Due to this we have seen lots of rash driving and traffic problems.

WEBHITS

3 most-read articles on the Mirror site

- Wonderwomen of Bengaluru
- Delivery personnel block Indiranagar residents' path
- Stranger thieves

Woman beheads husband
An Andhra Pradesh woman allegedly beheaded her husband with a sharp knife and later surrendered before the police on Thursday

BangaloreMirror | 8
Friday, January 21, 2022
mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com
facebook.com/thebangaloremirror
@BangaloreMirror

Deaths much lower in 3rd wave, says Govt

Jabs preventing severe illness in this covid wave, says Healthy Secretary stressing on need to get vaccinated

#New Delhi

Deaths as against active cases have been significantly lower in the third wave of covid-19 pandemic than the previous one, the government said on Thursday underlining the current surge is not witnessing increase in severe illness or death following high vaccination uptake.

Presenting a comparison of the key indices during the second and third surge in India, Union Health Secretary Rajesh Bhushan said on April 30, 2021, there were 3,86,452 new cases, 3,059 deaths and 31,70,228 active cases and the proportion of fully vaccinated people that time was 2 per cent.

On January 20, 2022, there are 3,17,532 new cases, 380 deaths and 19,24,051 active cases and the proportion of fully vaccinated people is 72 per cent, he said.

"So it shows that deaths as against active cases have been significantly fewer in the third wave of the COVID-19 pandemic than the second wave, while the vaccinated population has increased significantly from from the second to third wave.

"By this we want to tell you that vaccination is effective. The disease remains mild and in moderate levels in fully vaccinated individuals," Bhushan said as he urged those who have not yet taken their first vaccine dose to take the shot and those who are overdue for their second dose to get fully inoculated.

"We track children's data too, 0-19 years age group in 2020 they contributed to 10 per cent of the total cases and 0.96 per cent of total deaths. In 2021, 0-19 years contributed to 11 per cent of the total cases and 0.70 per cent of total deaths happening because of covid-19. Between 2020 and 2021 there is not much of a difference either in terms of contribution of this age group or in terms of contribution of this group to total deaths," he said.

A patient inhales herbal medicine at a covid care centre in Kanyakumari district on Thursday

ICMR Director General Dr Balram Bhargava said, "The current surge in India is not witnessing an increase in severe illness and death because of high vaccination uptake. However, we have to remember one point, those with comorbidities should monitor their health and avoid complications." "To summarize vaccines prevent death and therefore is a must," he said.

NITI Aayog member (Health) Dr V K Paul drew attention to the fact that there are still about 1 crore people (in the over 60 age group) who are yet to get their first dose and 25 per cent are yet to get a second dose. Providing an update on Covid-19 vaccination, Bhushan said 94 per cent of India's adults have been administered the first dose, while 72 per cent are fully vaccinated.

States of concern

Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Delhi and Uttar Pradesh have emerged as states of concern because of rising weekly cases and positivity. **– PTI**

Army in touch with Chinese PLA to return youth from Arunachal

#New Delhi

The Indian Army has sought assistance from China's People Liberation Army (PLA) to locate and return a young boy who hails from Arunachal Pradesh and has been reportedly captured by the Chinese army, informed Defence Ministry's Tezpur Public Relation Officer.

"17-year-old youth Miram Tarom of Zido, Arunachal Pradesh was reportedly captured by Chinese PLA across the Line of Actual Control. Indian Army immediately contacted PLA through hotline, assistance from PLA has been sought to locate and return him as per protocol," PRO tweeted on Thursday. Earlier today, Congress Member of Legislative Assembly (MLA) from Pasighat West Ninong Ering claimed that 17-year-old was abducted by the Chinese army on Tuesday.

Miram Taron who was reportedly captured by China's PLA, in East Siang

His Twitter post said that Taron was abducted at around 6:30 PM near Siungla from the jungle called Lungta Jor under Indian territory by the PLA.

Taron went hunting with his friend Johnny Yaying in the last border village of Bising under Tuting, he posted. **– ANI**

BJP denies Parrikar's son ticket from Panaji

#Panaji (Goa)

Former Goa Chief Minister Manohar Parrikar's son Utpal Parrikar has not been fielded by Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) from Panjim, a seat he has been keen to contest from BJP on Thursday released its first list of 34 candidates for the upcoming Goa assembly election. Utpal Parrikar's name was on the list and BJP leaders said they were in talks with him but could not deny a ticket to a sitting MLA from the Panaji seat.

Manohar Parrikar, a stalwart of BJP in Goa, passed away in 2019. BJP has fielded Atanasio Monserrate 'Babush' from Panaji, a seat held by Parrikar for almost 25 years.

Monseratte said Parrikar was the "tallest leader" and the seat is again going to BJP.

"I cannot compare myself to late Manohar Parrikar. He was the tallest leader. He held the Panjim seat for the past 25 years. It was only during the by-election when people missed Parrikar, I was elected from the seat. I have high regard for Parrikar and his family. So the seat is now once again going to the BJP. We will work hard to ensure the margin of victory is the highest that BJP got from the seat," he told ANI. Monseratte had joined BJP along with nine other Congress MLAs in July 2019.

As demand surges and staff fall sick, temps deliver the goods

#Mumbai

Hiring of temporary workers for last-mile home delivery has surged 35-40% in the past two weeks as companies grapple with increasing demand amid government restrictions to contain Covid-19 and rising absenteeism among their workforces due to infections.

There is a big spike in demand for doorstep deliveries of everything from food and daily essentials to packaged goods and hygiene products in both big cities and smaller markets amid night and weekend curfews, and limited operating hours at malls and marketplaces across multiple states, industry executives said. "We have created over 2,000-plus new opportunities within the last weeks and have been able to onboard over 1,400 people across 10 cities," a spokesperson for online grocery platform Blinkit said.

Most hiring temporary

"To meet the needs of customers and also to support seller partners in this wave, we have hired more temporary staff over the past few weeks," a spokesperson for Walmart-owned Flipkart said. Companies are also affected by increasing infections among their delivery workers.

"There is continuous increase in demand for last-mile delivery workforce, not only because of higher ecommerce traction but also because of a lot of attrition and higher infections which requires immediate replacements of the delivery workforce," said Rituparna Chakraborty, cofounder of staffing firm TeamLease Services. Apart from demand for workforce in deliveries, related roles like warehouse management and customer support services have also surged, TeamLease said.

Firms are taking steps to take care of their delivery workers.

Shadowfax, which works with Flipkart Quick, Bigbasket and Zepto for last-mile deliveries, for example, has brought in fresh financial and medical assistance for its 100,000-plus rider network.

"We have implemented policies to ensure that our network partners stay protected, and, in turn, the delivery cycle is guarded...and to keep a tab on the spread of infection among rider partners," said Abhishek Bansal, cofounder of Shadowfax.

He said grocery and pharma categories have witnessed a 50% spike in delivery volume compared to the last month. For restaurants, too, most of their business has switched to deliveries in large markets with states imposing stringent night curfews and other restrictions.

An executive at Swiggy said the food delivery platform has increased hiring of delivery fleet to meet the demand surge and that it allows partners to choose if they want to work full time or on a temporary basis.

For Swiggy and Zomato,the sudden spike in last-mile delivery demand started on New Year's Eve when they reported combined orders of over 4.5 million in one day. The pressure on temp workforce hiring is expected to ease out once infections reduce. **—Ratna Bhushan, ET**

BEST OF
DR MAHINDER WATSA

The finest responses of Dr Watsa are being republished in this column as a tribute to him.

1 Dear doctor uncle. I am 19-year-old man. Last year on my birthday, my neighbour couple, with whom I am friendly, had invited me over for some snacks. When I reached, uncle was not there and aunty made me hard by appearing in her underwear. We had two rounds of sex - my first time. It was the best birthday gift and best day of my life. Uncle and aunty moved house two months after this. In those two months, I tried to again have sex with her but she didn't allow. Recently, I spotted them at the mall with a new-born child. They were married for five years but didn't have a child and now after having sex with me they have one, so I think it is my child. How can I find out if I am the father? I would like to be close to my son.
I would strongly suggest that you call the whole thing off. In fact it is difficult to identify the paternity of the baby, and your interference could only complicate matters for you and them. Take it as an experience and move on.

2 I am 21 years old, and the size of my penis is fairly below average. I also suffer from premature ejaculation and I am really embarrassed about it, or even to talk to a doctor about it. Is there any medication you can prescribe to help me out with my problem?
First of all medication or any other method you adopt is not going to enlarge your penis. For your premature ejaculation it requires time and patience for the treatment to work. Consult a sexpert who can help.

MEET THE SEXPERTS
Use this QR code to send your questions to us

Don't do THESE things to your hair

Find out what common mistakes on a daily basis can take the life out of your locks

Ria Bhatia
mybangaloremirror
@timesgroup.com
TWEETS @BangaloreMirror

Let's admit it, we all love our locks, and we leave no stone unturned to ensure it is at its best. From plush in-salon treatments to the best-in-class haircare products, we've done it all. However, even after all these efforts, our hair doesn't seem to feel and look the way we'd like it to be. Why? We make some common mistakes on a daily basis that take a toll on our hair quality, causing unwanted damage, breakage and dullness. Read on, learn and avoid them.

Shampooing Too Often Or Too Less

There are two kinds of people – one, who are super lazy about washing their hair and do it barely once a week and two, who are super enthusiastic about it and wash their hair almost every day. Ideally, one should do none. You've gotta find the sweet spot between the two and determine a frequency that works for your hair type, ensuring it's well-cleansed but not dry and damaged. "It is generally recommended that dry, straight and oily hair should be washed more often than curly hair. Our hair and scalp actually convey to us through signs, indicating that it needs a good wash. So, I'd say just go by the signs and wash as per your hair/scalp needs," shares Shweta Sahni, National Education Manager, L'Oréal Professionnel.

Not Picking The Right Shampoo

This is where most of us go wrong. The price, packaging and fragrance are factors that have been influencing our purchase for the longest time. However, your scalp type is what should be given prime importance here. "Always pick the shampoo based on the needs of your scalp. If you don't have any scalp concerns then you should choose a shampoo according to your hair needs. If your hair is fine, dull and needs shine then go for a shampoo that has keratin. If you're blessed with curls, go for moisture locking shampoos to pamper those luscious curls," suggests Sahni.

Skipping A Hair Mask/ Conditioner

With cleansing, most shampoos also dry out the hair, leading to breakage, split ends and roughness. So, nourishing it is super essential. "Applying conditioner/ hair mask is a must. Think of it has a shield, an added protective layer that refortifies the hair cuticle," says Sahni. You can pick from a conditioner and a mask depending on the dryness.

Applying Conditioner On The Scalp

It's might not be severely damaging, but it's unnecessary and gives your hair a not-so-pleasant look once it has dried out. "Conditioners and masks are to condition the hair; our scalp produces its own natural oils (sebum) which helps to keep the scalp hydrated and moisturised, so no requirement to add external conditioners," informs Sahni.

Combing Wet, Dripping Hair

We've all been advised as kids to comb our hair while it is wet to avoid the formation of knots. However, the truth is far from that. "Your hair is at its most vulnerable state when it's wet and brushing it can overstretch the strands and ultimately tear them. So, no matter how short of time one is or anything, brushing wet hair is an absolute no," says Sahni. Plus, wet hair equals open pores and combing it means fidgeting with those weak pores. This rule, however, applies to only straight hair. "Those with curly hair or textured hair are encouraged to brush when their hair is wet as this helps to reduce breakage, evenly distribute the CG products and to lock in the curl pattern," adds Sahni.

Ignoring Scalp Exfoliation

We pay so much attention to body exfoliation but what about the scalp? "Our body already naturally replaces the dead skin cells with new cells, but sometimes this process takes much longer or requires some external help and here is where scalp exfoliation comes to use. People who suffer from dandruff and oily scalp can exfoliate their scalp to keep it cleaner and healthier," explains Sahni. The recommendation is once or twice a week, no more than that.

Not Caring For Hair Post Showering

If you think that your job is done with shampooing and conditioning, think again. You've cleansed and moisturised, but what about what comes next? Your hair is wet, vulnerable and prone to damage due to environmental aggressors. Serums and heat protectants can help avoid this. "Hair serums and oils are basically a magic potion in a bottle. From eliminating frizz to adding shine, from heat protection to smoothening your hair, they are practically an all-in-one solution for your hair problems," says Sahni.

MIRRORLIGHTS

Study examines if coffee helps protect against endometrial cancer

A new study has found that higher coffee consumption is linked to a lower risk of endometrial cancer. Along with that, caffeinated coffee may provide better protection than decaffeinated coffee.

The research has been published in the 'Journal of Obstetrics and Gynaecology Research'.

The analysis included 24 studies on coffee intake with 9,833 new cases of endometrial cancer occurring in 699,234 individuals.

People in the highest category of coffee intake had a 29 per cent lower relative risk of developing endometrial cancer than those in the lowest category.

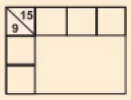
The authors of the analysis

highlighted several mechanisms that have been associated with the potential anti-cancer effects of coffee.

"Further studies with large sample size are needed... to obtain more information regarding the benefits of coffee drinking in relation to the risk of endometrial cancer," they wrote. **—ANI**

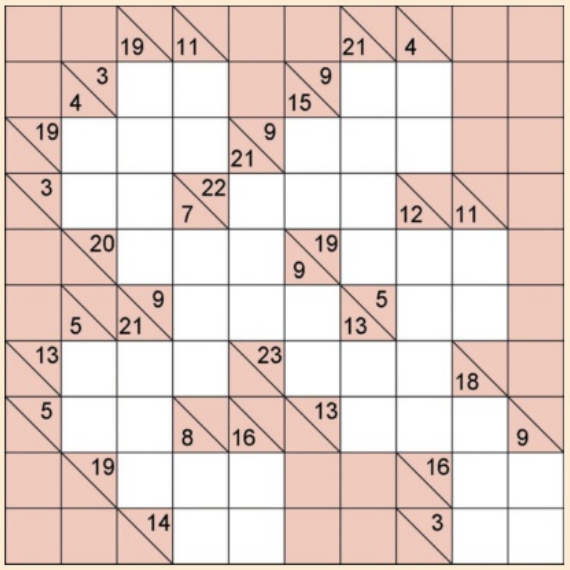
Kakuro

The numbers in the grey squares refer to the sums of the digits that you must fill into the empty spaces directly below or to the right of the grey square containing the number. For instance, in the given example, the 3 boxes horizontally next to 15 must contain 3 digits that add up to 15, whereas

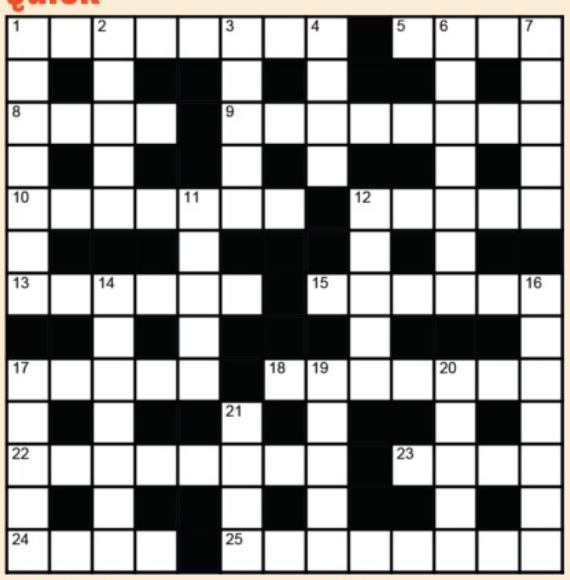


for 9, it is the 2 boxes placed vertically under it that must add up to 9. No zeros are used here, only the digits 1 through 9.

Note: A digit cannot appear more than once in any particular digit combination. For instance, in the example, we cannot have the combination of 4+7+4 for 15.



Quick



ACROSS

1 Famous battle (8)
5 Hotshots (4)
8 Female relative (4)
9 Odd (8)
10 Euphoria (7)
12 Beg earnestly (5)
13 Nun (6)
15 Karnataka Lake home to a bird sanctuary (6)
17 Per ___: yearly (5)
18 Stopped ball with bat? (7)
22 Actor (8)
23 Region, space set aside for a purpose (4)
24 Mountain goats (4)
25 Dar Es Salaam's location (8)

DOWN

1 Enfeebles, debilitates (7)
2 Is inclined? (5)
3 Easy gaits (5)
4 One time only (4)
6 Monster (7)
7 Fragment, bit (5)
11 Revoke as a legacy (5)
12 Dwarf planet (5)
14 Ray of sunlight (7)
16 Fictional archaeologist ___ Jones (7)
17 More fitting (5)
19 Bed cloth (5)
20 Mrs. Anupam Kher? (5)
21 A clenched hand (4)

Quoteuncode

This puzzle is a substitution cipher in which one letter stands for another. If you think that Q equals C, it will equal C throughout the puzzle. Single letters, short words and words using an apostrophe give you clues to locating vowels. Solution is by trial and error.

Today's CLUE: I EQUALS G

TU UTD EZ LUST MPKETI UKMDSZ.

Linemaro

Don't be alarmed if a man in a red suit throws you into a bag. (Why?)
Because I asked for you for Christmas

Mindchow

Party: A gathering held to enable forty people to talk about themselves at the same time

Joke of the day

Every time I hear the dirty word exercise', I wash my mouth out with chocolate

Loop

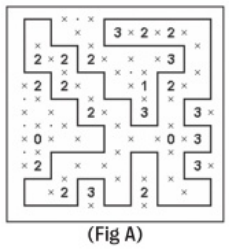
Rules

» Connect adjacent dots with vertical or horizontal lines, creating a single loop (Fig A). » Crossovers or branches are not allowed (As shown by dotted lines in Fig B). » Numbers in the puzzle indicate the number of lines that should surround it, while empty cells may be surrounded by any number of lines. » You can't draw lines around zeros. » Each puzzle has just one unique solution.

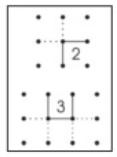
How to begin:

Example (Fig A) – Begin with the zero next to 3. Since no lines can be drawn around zero, mark crosses around it, as shown. Now there is a cross in one space around 3. So we know the three lines of 3 can only be drawn in the remaining three spaces. Next, these lines can only be extended in one direction each. Continue, using the same logic.

Hints: Keep eliminating possibilities by marking crosses in spaces between dots where a line isn't possible, i.e., if you have already completed required lines or where a line extension may create a branch or cause a dead-end (Fig B)

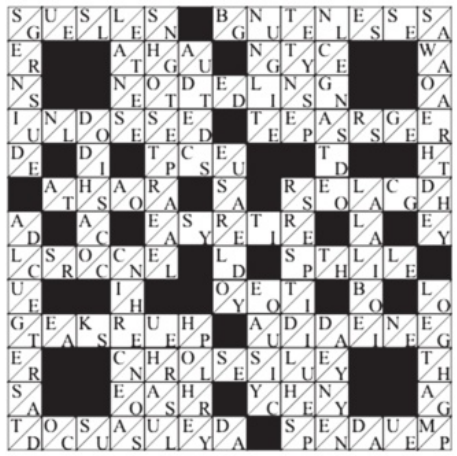


(Fig A)



(Fig B)
Not Allowed

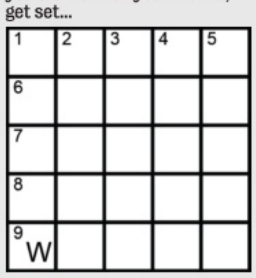
Strikeout



This crossword has no clues and the answer is there waiting for you. All you have to do is find it in each square. You have a choice of two letters, one of which you must strike out. If you choose correctly, you will be left with a grid that contains real words.

Fast five

How long do you think it will take you to unscramble the ten words shown below and fit them correctly into the grid in the order given one letter has already been entered to get you started? on your marks, get set...



ACROSS

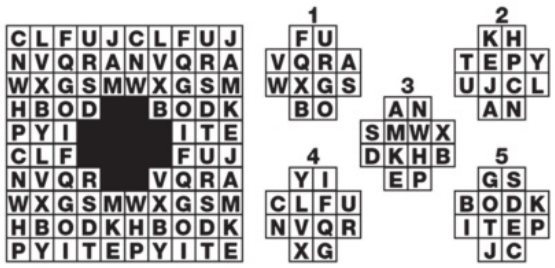
1 Sh Plu; 6 Ah pal;
7 Apter; 8 Alien;
9 Flows

DOWN

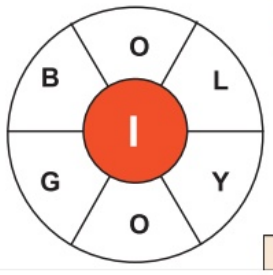
1 Aw pap; 2 No all;
3 Lit up; 4 Flesh;
5 Shear

Mensapuzzle

Which segment completes the puzzle?



Bull's eye



How many words of four or more letters can you make from the letters shown? Every word must contain the central letter. There should be one seven-letter word. British English Dictionary is used as a reference.

03 Average; 04 Good; 05 Outstanding

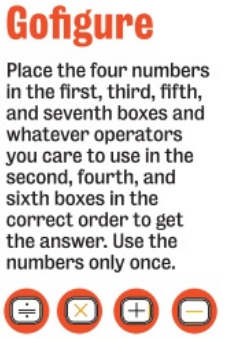
SudokuChallenge

	3		9		7		2	
1								7
	7	9		2		8	3	
	5	6				3	4	
			4		5			
	4	1				6	7	
	8	5		1		7	6	
7								3
	2		5		8		9	

To solve a Sudoku puzzle, every digit from one to nine must appear in each of the nine vertical columns, in each of the nine horizontal rows and in each of the nine boxes.

Gofigure

Place the four numbers in the first, third, fifth, and seventh boxes and whatever operators you care to use in the second, fourth, and sixth boxes in the correct order to get the answer. Use the numbers only once.



Hocusfocus

Find at least six differences in details between panels.

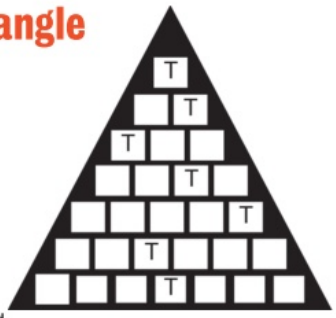
Differences: 1. Menu is moved. 2. Pocket is lower. 3. Button is added. 4. Hat is different. 5. Awning is not as wide. 6. Lapel is missing.

Riddler

I am a word of meanings three. Three ways of spelling me there be. The first is an odour, a smell if you will. The second some money, but not in a bill. The third is past tense, a method of passing things on or around. Can you tell me now, what these words are, that have the same sound?

Alpha triangle

1 Tonne, abbr.
2 Near to
3 Light brown
4 Poker stake
5 Representative
6 Taking food
7 Grape harvest



Beginning at the top move towards the bottom seven-letter word by adding a letter at each step and rearranging. A correct and different word must be made at each step answering to the clue given.

DIFFICULT TO SOLVE? FIND THESE SOLUTIONS ON THE NEXT PAGE

COMICS

Redeye by Mel Casson

11-8
STRAIGHTEN UP, YOUNG MAN, OR I'LL USE THIS ON YOU!
SCHOOL
WHAT'S NEW AT SCHOOL, POKEY?
THE TEACHER'S GOING IN FOR AUDIO-VISUAL AIDS!

Bizarrotrip

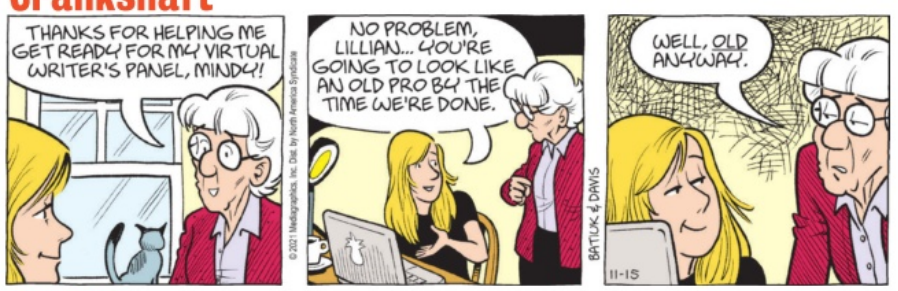
Wayno & 5 Pipers
11-18-21
Your drink will reach a size of up to 12 ounces, and a representative will bring it to you between nine and noon.
INTERNET CAFE
BIZARRO.COM

Diamond Lil

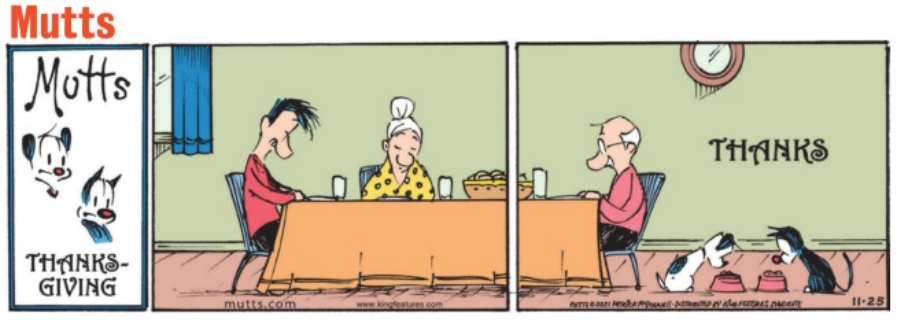
Hart of the city

SO. HOW'S BEING FRIENDS WITH DANA?
OH, YOU KNOW, UP AND DOWN. IT'S HARD TO SAY.
SHE CAN BE MEAN, BUT SHE ALSO HAS UNLIMITED SEAWEED CHIPS.
YEAH! THE SEAWEED CHIPS ARE A GAME-CHANGER.

Crankshaft


THANKS FOR HELPING ME GET READY FOR MY VIRTUAL WRITER'S PANEL, MINDY!
NO PROBLEM, LILLIAN... YOU'RE GOING TO LOOK LIKE AN OLD PRO BY THE TIME WE'RE DONE.
WELL, OLD ANYWAY.
BATIUK & DAVIS

Mutts



WHAT YOUR STARS SAY TODAY

Aries Mar 21 – Apr 20
Today, you may do better; kids' health is better now. You can plan to make some investments for kids' future. You are likely to be more loyal towards your job. Job seekers may find a good job with the help of referral. You may be able to find your hidden enemies, and with the help of their blessings, you may counter them.

Taurus Apr 21 – May 20
Today, you may hear a good news in terms of job. Job seekers may be focused to get success in exams with the help of hard work. Singles may get engaged with their soulmate. You may also here some good news in terms of childbirth.

Gemini May 21 – Jun 21
Today, you may plan for a change in place. It is advised to postpone the decision related to migration. It is also advised to avoid investment in business. By late evening, situations may be under control. with the help of good advice from one of the elders, you may control the messy situation.

Cancer Jun 22 – July 23
Today, you may expect some short business trip. You may also expect to get some rewards for your success in your domain. Your prestige around you may increase. You may hear some good news from siblings. Job seekers, who are seeking management job, may get success. Singles are likely to get engaged.

Leo Jul 24 – Aug 23
Today, you are blessed by your elders. New sources of income may open, which will boost your bank balance, you may plan to renovate your house. You may get a big order, which can grow your family business multiple times. You need to keep patience while signing any contract. There may be some movement in your business; delayed projects will start again.

Virgo Aug 24 – Sep 23
Today is a good day for you. You may have good vitality and health. You may enjoy your work. Today, this is your challenge to avoid straight ways. It is advised to avoid arguments on worthless topics, otherwise some disputes in the family may occur. You may be able to avoid speaking harsh words; you may expect healthy partnerships in the business and harmony in the family. Job seekers may find suitable jobs. Love birds are advised to avoid discussing worthless topics.

Libra Sep 24 – Oct 22
Today your vital power may slow down, your old disease may be reappeared, which may make you upset. You are advised to avoid adventure tours or rush driving. You are advised to avoid any type of ligations, you may settle it out of the jury. You may also plan for overseas tour.

Scorpio Oct 23 – Nov 22
Today you may get profits in your past investments. Your loses may convert into profits. Implementation of new ideas may give progress in the business. Today you may get success easily . you are likely to meet an influential person , who may show you the right path to get success. Love bird may take some decisions in terms of marriage. Couples will hear good news in terms of kids. Job seekers will get suitable job.

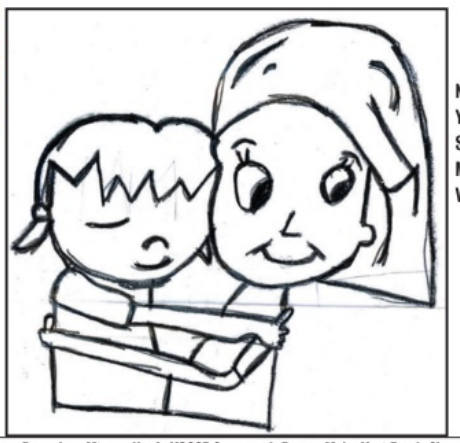
Sagittarius Nov 23 – Dec 22
Today your family and spouse will support you, it will create increase in domestic harmony. Due to overload at the work, you may not give proper time to your family, you may be reached in the family get together . You are expected to see a strong position in your professional front. Projects related to government agencies are likely to initiate now.

Capricorn Dec 23 – Jan 20
Today is your spiritual power may make you happy. Your way of thinking may be positive. You are inclined to spiritualism today. You may plan to visit some religious place. You may also take interest in occult science. You are likely to observe flawlessness in your nature. It is advised to keep your views with you only, try to discuss with those person, who may understand your frequency.

Aquarius Jan 21 – Feb 19
Today ,you may feel nervous , you have lack of patience, for seeking peace you may be attracted by occult, it is advised to follow your intuition before going ahead. You may also get depth knowledge on a subject or you may have a good focus towards your research.

Pisces Feb 20 – Mar 20
Today , Your moon is placed in a good position , you may expect some positive momentum in professional and domestic life. there are likely to expect gains in terms of your investments . You may get reciprocation of your help from your friends and relatives. Your hard work may pay you in terms of success.

KIDZONE



Nithyashree KL, 12 Years, Sri Manjuanthaswamy Vidyanikethan

Kaveri Sriram, 7 Years, Indus High School

Kidzone, Bangalore Mirror, No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018; Please send hard copies of your artwork in A4 size only.

SOLUTIONS

SOLVE IN 1M
√((1/4)/(1/4)/(1/4)/(1/4)/(1/4))
√((1)/(1/4)/(1/4)/(1/4))
√((4/(1/4)/(1/4))
√((16/(1/4))
√(64) = 8

RIDDLER
Scent, cent and sent.

QUOTE UNCODE
No one is born hating others.

FAST FIVE

P	L	U	S	H
A	L	P	H	A
P	A	T	E	R
A	N	I	L	E
W	O	L	F	S

STRIKE OUT

G	U	L	L	S	■	G	U	T	L	E	S	S
E	A	H	A	■	N	Y	E	■	W	■
■	■	N	O	D	D	I	N	G	■	A
I	N	D	E	E	D	■	T	E	A	S	E	R
E	■	I	■	T	S	E	■	T	■	T
T	S	A	R	■	A	R	O	A	C	H
A	■	C	■	E	Y	R	I	E	■	L
C	R	O	N	E	■	L	■	P	H	I	L	■
U	■	I	■	Y	E	T	■	B	■	O
T	A	K	E	U	P	■	A	I	D	I	N	G
■	I	■	F	■	I	■	■	■	I	■
S	I	S	T	E	R	■	G	U	D	A	V	I
■	■	■	B	L	O	C	K	E	D	■
A	N	N	U	M	■	■	■	■	■	■
■	■	U	■	E	■	■	■	■	■	■
N	■	■	■	D	■	L	■	R	■	■
E	C	S	T	A	S	Y	■	P	L	E	A	D
K	■	D	■	E	■	M	■	E	■	■
A	U	N	T	■	P	E	C	U	L	I	A	R
E	■	E	■	O	■	N	■	H	■	■
W	A	T	E	R	L	O	O	■	A	C	E	S

QUICK

R	A	M	S	■	T	A	N	Z	A	N	I	A
E	■	A	■	S	■	E	■	O	■	N
T	H	E	S	P	I	A	N	■	A	R	E	A
P	■	B	■	F	■	I	■	■	I	■
A	N	N	U	M	■	B	L	O	C	K	E	D
■	■	U	■	E	■	■	■	■	■	■
S	I	S	T	E	R	■	G	U	D	A	V	I
■	■	■	D	■	L	■	R	■	■	■
E	C	S	T	A	S	Y	■	P	L	E	A	D
K	■	D	■	E	■	M	■	E	■	■
A	U	N	T	■	P	E	C	U	L	I	A	R
E	■	E	■	O	■	N	■	H	■	■
W	A	T	E	R	L	O	O	■	A	C	E	S

MENSA PUZZLE
2. Splitting the large square into quarters, each quarter features the same pattern of letters.

BULL'S EYE
BIOLOGY, boil, gilb, igloo, oily

GO FIGURE
Easy
4 – 9 + 5 + 8 = 8
3 x 5 x 1 – 2 = 13
Medium
5 + 8 – 5 – 7 = 1
Hard

ALPHA TRIANGLE
T, At, Tan, Ante, Agent, Eating, Vintage.

SUDOKU

6	2	3	5	7	8	4	9	1
7	1	4	6	9	2	5	8	3
9	8	5	3	1	4	7	6	2
8	4	1	2	3	9	6	7	5
3	9	7	4	6	5	2	1	8
2	5	6	7	8	1	3	4	9
5	7	9	1	2	6	8	3	4
1	6	2	8	4	3	9	5	7
4	3	8	9	5	7	1	2	6

LOOP

KAKURO

Volume No 15, Issue No 153 RNI NO:KARENG/2007/21142 Published for the Proprietors, Metropolitan Media Company Ltd by R.J. Prakashan at No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamrajpet, Bengaluru 560 018 and printed by him at Fourth Estate Ltd, No. 9/10/11-A, 4th Main, Bommasandra Industrial Area, Hosur Road, Bengaluru 560099 (Phones : Press : 080-22899999; Editorial : 080-40877666, Fax – 40877545, Registered Office: No.4, KSCCF Compound, Pampa Maha Kavi Road, Chamarajpet, Bengaluru 560 018. Email : mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com Editor : Ms. Seena Menon – responsible for selection of news under PRB Act. © Reproduction in whole or in part without the written permission of the Publisher is prohibited.

 # Film studio in space Space Entertainment Enterprise (S.E.E), the company co-producing Tom Cruise's upcoming space movie, plans to launch a sports arena and production studio in space by 2024

BangaloreMirror | 12
Friday, January 21, 2022
mybangaloremirror@timesgroup.com
facebook.com/thebangaloremirror
@BangaloreMirror

Affairs of the heart

Is what director Shakun Batra says he is exploring with his latest offering

The trailer of Shakun Batra's much awaited relationship drama 'Gehraiyaan' dropped today. The film will be released on Amazon Prime Video on February 11. In a virtual press conference, the film's lead actors (Deepika Padukone, Siddhant Chaturvedi, Ananya Panday and Dhairya Karwa) along with the makers spoke about the film and more.

Director Shakun Batra (**inset**) explained, "Love has been oversimplified in Hindi films for too long. We wanted to take a look at more complex relationships, observe them without judgment. I grew up on regular Bollywood films — Kabhi Alvida Naa Kehna, Kabhi Kabhie. While speaking of infidelity, most of these films revolved around finding a soulmate. Gehraiyaan is different because here characters don't cheat under the garb of finding true love. In today's time people are looking at love differently. It's not about finding the one but giving into what you are feeling at that moment. Affairs can happen because you find someone who helps you find yourself, not because you find your soulmate."

On her character in the film, Deepika Padukone added, "You have never seen any Indian actor play a character like this. Relationships are Shakun's forte. And by relationships I don't mean boyfriend girlfriend. It could be siblings, parents. He is the best when it comes to exploring those dynamics. The world is full of different kinds of relationships and for us, there was no reference point. One had to dig deep and trust the director. Intimacy hasn't been explored in Indian cinema the way Shakun does in Gehraiyaan. I have never played a character as raw and real emotionally. For an actor, it's only possible to play this part when you feel safe about the director's vision and Shakun had it."

On getting an intimacy director (Dar Gai) on board, Shakun added, "Just like choreography, action, intimacy is a specialised space. You have to create an environment where actors can be comfortable. Hollywood follows this procedure normally. My effort was to get that system in place here, where everyone is comfortable with each other. My friend Dar has worked on music videos which had intimacy. We didn't want to use intimacy for shock value. We wanted to treat it like a story. Dar helped us with that so it was important that we give her the same respect in the credits that we give others."

— Renuka Vyavahare, ETimes

Varalaxmi gets on board Sundeep-starrer Michael

Varalaxmi Sarathkumar is the latest to join the cast of Sundeep Kishan's upcoming action entertainer Michael, directed by Ranjit Jeyakodi. The film has Vijay Sethupathi playing a special role, and will be out in multiple languages including Telugu, Tamil, Kannada, Malayalam and Hindi languages. An official announcement of Varalaxmi joining the team was made on Thursday by the team. The actor will be playing a key role in the film that also stars Divyansha Kaushik in the female lead. Apart from these actors, Michael will also see Gauttham Vasudev Menon in an antagonist character. Michael, made under Sree Venkateswara Cinemas and Karan C Productions, is jointly produced by Bharath Chowdary, Puskur Ram Mohan Rao, and Narayan Das K Narang.

Ranjit Jeyakodi has penned a distinctive script for Sundeep Kishan, who will be seen in an intense and author-backed role.

—Mahesha H

Cool gal

Fatima Sana Sheikh's uber chic style is sure to take your breath away

Watch this story come alive by pointing your phone camera at the QR code

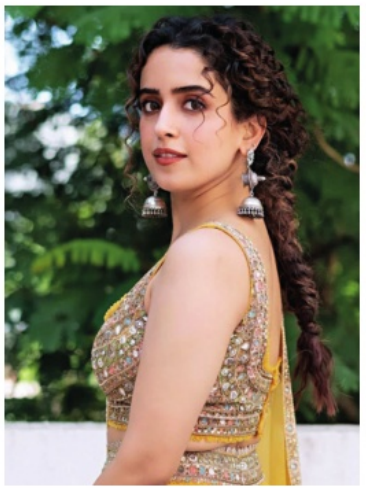
Cinematographer Satya Hegde turns producer

Satya Hegde, who is recognised as one of the most sought after cinematographer in Sandalwood, is stepping into production. The first venture to come under the banner, Satya Hegde Studios, is a short film. Titled, The Critic, it is directed by Act 1978 director, Mansore, and stars TS Nagabharana and Uma YG. It is currently streaming on Satya Hegde Studios' You Tube Channel.

"This short film was made during the last lockdown. The death of Travancore Vijay, who went into depression, prompted me to make a short film," said Mansore, who has based this short film based on the story penned by BM Basheer. The music to this short film is scored by Ronad Bakkesh, and photography is by Guruprasad Narnad. Veerendra Mallanna and Srinivas Kalal are also associated with this project. "I go by the thought 'Small is beautiful', which I want to refer with these two short films, which have a lot of meaning. I wish good luck to both," says director Nagathihalli Chandrashekar. Srinagar Kitty also coveyed his best to DOP and producer. Hegde now plans to release one short film, the second week of Sundays, every month. Up next is, Puppet, directed by Abhishek Kasragou, which will be out on February 13.

—Mahesha H

Useful to have an imaginary boyfriend



Dangal actor Sanya Malhotra recently answered some tricky questions with hilarious replies. During a rapid fire round with an entertainment portal, the happy-go-lucky actor was asked some questions where she talked about her 'imaginary boyfriend'.

In one of her questions, she was asked to choose between her favourite star couples Vicky Kaushal and Katrina Kaif, and Alia Bhatt and Ranbir Kapoor. To this, the actor said that while both are amazing, she thinks the question itself is wrong. She went ahead to 'fix' the question with her 'imaginary boyfriend' and said, "Sanya and her imaginary boyfriend or Vicky-Katrina?" She chose VicKat and cracked up.

Sanya also had a similar response when she was asked to pick the 'better dancer' between Hrithik Roshan and Shahid Kapoor. Dodging the question, she said that the two options should not be there in the first place as both are 'great dancers'. "I should have been there as an option. Sanya or Shahid? Shahid Kapoor. Sanya or Hrithik? Hrithik Roshan," she added while speaking to Bollywood Hungama.

Vicky Kaushal tied the knot on December 9 with Katrina Kaif in a lavish wedding ceremony held in Rajasthan. The super-private wedding was only attended by close family members and friends. Post their wedding, they made it official on social media with dreamy pictures from their wedding. The couple recently celebrated their first Lohri in Indore as husband and wife. On the other hand, Alia and Ranbir make for one of the most popular couples in B-Town. While they were reportedly ready to take the plunge, it seems like the plans got pushed due to the covid-19 pandemic.

Coming back to Sanya, the actress will be starring next in Vicky Kaushal starrer 'Sam Bahadur'.